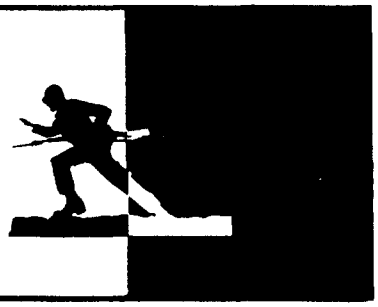
INFANTRY NEWS



THREE INFANTRY SCHOOL publications have been approved for distribution, depending upon funds available and priority level. All publications will be available online in the Army Doctrine and Training Digital Library at http://www.adtdl.army.mil.html.

STP 7-11BCHM1-SM, *Soldier's Manual, MOS 11BCHM Infantry, Skill Level 1.* This manual contains standardized training objectives in the form of task summaries to train on critical tasks that support unit missions during wartime. It applies to soldiers in the Active Army and the Reserve Components.

STP 7-11H14-SM-TG, *Soldier's Manual and Trainer's Guide, MOS 11H, Heavy Antiarmor Weapons, Infantry, Skill Levels 1/2/3/4.*

STP 7-11M14-SM-TG, Soldier's Manual and Trainer's Guide, MOS 11M Fighting Vehicle Infantryman, Skill Levels 1/2/3/4. These manuals are for skill levels 1 through 4 soldiers holding MOSs 11H and 11M. They are also for trainers and first-line supervisors. They contain standardized training objectives in the form of task summaries, which support unit missions during wartime.

All three soldier's manuals should be made available in the soldier's work area, the unit learning center, and unit libraries.

A DEPLOYABLE CITY training and test facility, Force Provider, was recently activated at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Force Provider serves as the Army's premier base camp for deployed troops. Each containerized, highly mobile city can be transported by land, sea, or air. It offers high quality living conditions in the areas of food, billeting, and hygiene services, as well as morale, welfare, and recreation facilities. Its features include climate-controlled tents, modern kitchens, showers and latrines, and advanced laundry service.

A Force Provider module is typically established on 10 acres of land. It takes an average of three to four days to prepare a site, then five to six days to set up the base camp and make it fully operational. One module is designed to support 550 soldiers and 50 base-camp operators.

The modules are prepositioned at key locations for rapid response to contingencies around the world. Force Provider first served as a base camp for troops participating in Operation *Sea Signal* at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in July 1994. Then, in November 1995, six modules were deployed to Bosnia in support of Operation *Joint Endeavor.* The Product Manager-Force Provider has been tasked to build and assemble a total of 36 modules by fiscal year 2005.

A BULLETPROOF "FLAK JACKET" that weighs 35 percent less than the current system was recently introduced. The Army and Marine Corps plan to issue Interceptor Body Armor (IBA) as a replacement for the Personnel Armor System, Ground Troops (PASGT). After more than 15 years of service, the anti-fragmentation vest is now considered outdated.

The 16.4-pound Interceptor system consists of a tactical vest and a pair of small-arms protective inserts. The Kevlar vest includes detachable neck and groin guards, while the ceramic plates slide into pockets on the front and rear.

The vest alone protects a soldier from shrapnel and 9mm pistol rounds. When the protective inserts are added, the system acts as a ballistic barrier to 7.62mm rifle ammunition as well. By comparison, the PASGT weighs about one-half pound more but offers defense only against fragmentation.

The PASGT, if it is teamed with the Interim Small Arms Protective Overvest, can be upgraded to stop 7.62mm rounds, but the combined weight of the two systems is 25.1 pounds. To reduce this burden, researchers merged the two designs into a lightweight body armor system that provides greater comfort and protection.

FLAME RESISTANT UNIFORMS for our nation's military personnel is a goal of the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center (Natick).

Army tankers and aviators from all services are authorized to wear flame-resistant clothing systems made from Nomex fiber. These materials, which char instead of melting, provide durable flame protection for the life of the garment because the fiber is inherently flame resistant. While these systems receive high user ratings, they are too expensive to provide to all military users.

Natick is actively addressing these cost-based user needs and has established a team to conduct flame and thermal research and development in this area.

The team's objectives are to establish flame and thermal performance requirements for military clothing systems; demonstrate a flammability test methodology that simulates military hazards; and develop a flame protective clothing system that is 30 to 50 percent less expensive than the existing Nomex-based systems.

The team has already succeeded in reaching the first two objectives and plans to reach its final objective of developing less expensive flame protection for service members by 2001.